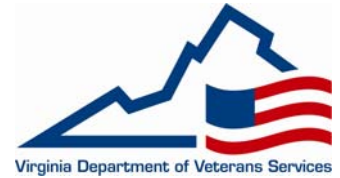


The Virginia Department of Veterans Services



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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Deed to be transferred for new state veterans cemetery in Dublin

RICHMOND—On September 22, 2008, veterans will have their first glimpse of the plans and land for a new veterans cemetery slated for construction in Dublin, Virginia. A ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. to mark the transfer of land from the U. S. Department of Army, Radford Army Ammunition Plant to the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin. Congressman Rick Boucher (Ninth Congressional District) will present the deed to Governor Tim Kaine. The event will be held at the Lions Club, 1 Lions Club Road, Dublin, directly across from the cemetery site.

“Veterans are eager to have a cemetery to serve the southwestern part of the state,” said Vince Burgess, Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. “This is an excellent and easily accessible location.”

Transfer of the 80 acre parcel was approved in 2006 by President Bush as part of the Defense Appropriations Act. Since then, detailed studies have been completed including an environmental analysis. New security fencing has been installed, separating the military facility from the newly acquired cemetery property, and power lines and poles have been removed from the property. A master plan has been completed laying out four phases of development for the cemetery.

Phase 1 construction is scheduled to begin in Spring 2009 and will include the cemetery office, committal shelter, maintenance complex, and assembly area. It will include space for approximately 5,250 casketed grave sites, 500 above-ground cremation sites, and 500 in-ground cremation sites, plus a cremation scatter garden. Phase 1 is scheduled to open in late 2010. The additional phases will be developed as needed.

The cemetery will be operated by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. The agency currently operates two cemeteries: the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk and the Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Amelia.

Serving those who served.

Service members who were honorably discharged qualify for burial in one of Virginia's veterans cemeteries. A grave site, opening and closing of the grave, placement of a government grave marker, and perpetual care of the site are provided to the veteran at no charge. Veterans' spouses and eligible dependent children may be interred for a small fee, currently \$300.

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